

Application No.: 10/804,199

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A three-dimensional image displaying method comprising:
determining whether a three-dimensional stereoscopic image content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image;
reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image when it is determined that the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image; and
switching to a process for reproducing the content with a restriction when it is determined that the entire content cannot be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image.

wherein when the three-dimensional stereoscopic image content contains multiple image data which correspond respectively to multiple viewpoints and the multiple image data includes unencrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include at least two viewpoints and encrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include one or more different viewpoints, the process for reproducing the content with a restriction is a process for reproducing a part of the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image using the unencrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include at least two viewpoints.

4. (Currently Amended) A three-dimensional image displaying method comprising:
determining whether a three-dimensional stereoscopic image content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image;

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reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image when it is determined that the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image; and

switching to a process for reproducing the content with a restriction when it is determined that the content cannot be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image,

wherein when the three-dimensional stereoscopic image content contains original stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to multiple viewpoints and other stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to the multiple viewpoints, the process for reproducing the content with a restriction is a process for adding the respective other stereoscopic image data to the respective original stereoscopic image data for the respective viewpoints so as to generate new stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to the multiple viewpoints and reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image using the generated new stereoscopic multiple image data in such a manner that another three-dimensional stereoscopic image appears in front of the range where an original three-dimensional stereoscopic image can be observed.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising obtaining a key for reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image when it is determined that the content cannot be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the content is encoded by the key, and further comprising decoding the content by using the key in reproducing the content.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein a program for reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image is encoded by the key, and further comprising decoding

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the program by using the key in reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image.

8.9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium containing a computer program configured to, when read and processed by a computer system, display a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, and configured to:

reproduce a three-dimensional stereoscopic image content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image;

reproduce the content with a restriction;

determine whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image; and

switch a reproduction process according to a result of the determining,

wherein when the three-dimensional stereoscopic image content contains multiple image data which correspond respectively to multiple viewpoints and the multiple image data includes unencrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include at least two viewpoints and encrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include one or more different viewpoints, the reproducing the content with a restriction performs a process for reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image using the unencrypted image data which ~~correspond to~~ include at least two viewpoints.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium containing a computer program configured to, when read and processed by a computer system, display a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, and configured to:

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reproduce a three-dimensional stereoscopic image content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image;

reproduce the content with a restriction;

determine whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image; and

switch a reproduction process according to a result of the determining, wherein when the three-dimensional stereoscopic image content contains original stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to multiple viewpoints and other stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to the multiple viewpoints, the reproducing the content with a restriction performs a process for adding the respective other stereoscopic image data to the respective original stereoscopic image data for the respective viewpoints so as to generate new stereoscopic multiple image data which correspond respectively to the multiple viewpoints and reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image using the generated new stereoscopic multiple image data in such a manner that another three-dimensional stereoscopic image appears in front of the range where an original three-dimensional stereoscopic image can be observed.

12. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 10, further comprising obtaining a key for reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image by accessing a server which offers the content.

13. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 12, wherein the obtaining the key is performed when it is determined that the content cannot be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image.

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14. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 12, wherein the content is encoded by the key, and the reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image includes decoding the content by using the key.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 12, wherein a program module for reproducing the content as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image is encoded by the key, and the switching the reproduction process includes decoding the program module by using the key.

16. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 12, further comprising an encoded identification code therein, and wherein it is determined whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, by decoding the encoded identification code by using the key.

17. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 16, further comprising an unencoded identification code as well as the encoded identification code therein, and wherein it is determined whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, by decoding the encoded identification code by using the key and comparing the decoded identification code with the unencoded identification code.

18. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 12, further comprising obtaining an encoded identification code from a three-dimensional stereoscopic image filter for viewing the content stereoscopically, and wherein it is determined whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, by decoding the encoded identification code by using the key.

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19. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of Claim 18, further comprising obtaining an unencoded identification code as well as the encoded identification code, and wherein it is determined whether the content can be reproduced as a three-dimensional stereoscopic image, by decoding the encoded identification code by using the key and comparing the decoded identification code with the unencoded identification code.

20-25. (Canceled)

26. (Withdrawn) A server comprising:
a storing unit which stores a key which corresponds to an identification code of a program, which is offered to a user, for providing a computer with a function for displaying a three-dimensional stereoscopic image;

a determining unit which determines whether an access from a user terminal is valid; and
a transmitting unit which transmits the key which corresponds to the program to the user terminal when the access is determined to be valid.

27. (Withdrawn) A three-dimensional stereoscopic image filter for viewing a content stereoscopically comprising:

a storing unit which stores an encoded identification code and an unencoded identification code; and
a transmitting unit which retrieves the encoded identification code and the unencoded identification code from the storing unit and transmits the identification codes to a user terminal.